

News Release

U of M Crookston Accounting Students Assist with Tax Preparation

By Itollefs on Thursday, March 4, 2010

Preparing to file income tax isn't necessarily a task one looks forward to, but accounting students at the University of Minnesota, Crookston, are honing their skills to assist others. Ken Bulie, a certified public accountant and accounting instructor in the Business Department on the Crookston Campus, has been preparing his Income Tax II class for this very opportunity.

During fall semester 2009, the students began working with the specialized software necessary for preparing taxes, and recently, they completed a two-day training session with an IRS representative. Following their exam, these newly certified income tax preparers will help the elderly or those with low income with their taxes preparation at the Golden Link Senior Center. Bulie has worked closely with Al Chesley, who runs the AARP Tax-Aide program in Crookston and supervises the student volunteers.



"This service is something students have been doing for the last several years," Bulie says. "It is an opportunity for our students to gain the skills and confidence they need as they work with people and with income tax preparation as well as to provide a valuable service to the community."

Instead of the class meeting three times a week, Bulie and his students work out a schedule that includes two regular class sessions per week, and the rest of the time is devoted to helping residents in the community filling out their tax forms.

To learn more about the accounting program at the U of M, Crookston, visit www.umcrookston.edu/academics/bus/accounting.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers more than 25 bachelor's degree programs and 50 concentrations, including several online degrees, in agriculture and natural resources; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,300 undergraduates, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree."

In the photo, front row: (l to r) Jordan Triestram, a senior from Shakopee, Minn.; Krista Nelson, a senior from Cokato, Minn.; Lincoln Messner, a senior from Winthrop, Minn.; and Jennifer Lund, a senior from Manvel, N.D. Back row: Jeremy Reinitz, a junior from Wadena, Minn.; JerryAnn Thomas, a junior from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; Bradley Kappes, a senior from Borup, Minn.; David Sumner, a senior from Warren, Minn.; Gwanwoo Yi, a senior from Seoul, South Korea; Erin Shaw, a senior from Lancaster, Minn.; and Eddie Hanson, a junior from Apple Valley, Minn.

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